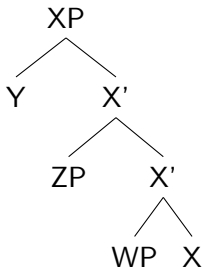


Lec14: X-bar theory-II

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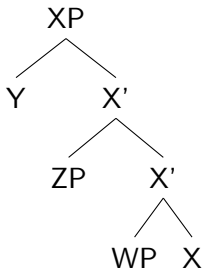
X-bar notation



XP stands for NP/VP/AdjP/CP and ZP, WP and Y are the optional non-terminals

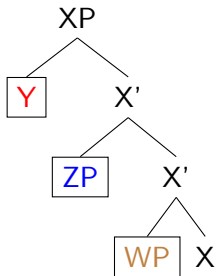
X is the mandatory head

The optional non-terminals in XP are captured by X' rules



Capture commonalities- recursive structures

X-bar notation



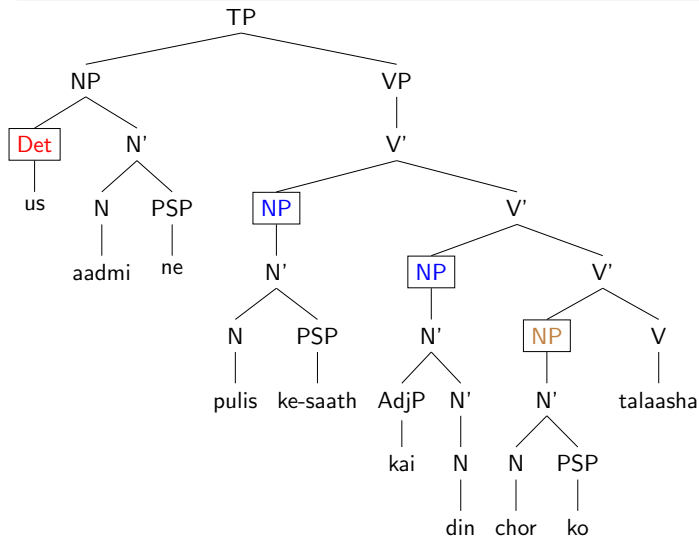
Every constituent rule can be expressed using a general format consisting of specifier, adjunct and complement

Specifiers are daughters of XP, sisters to X'

Adjuncts are sisters to X'

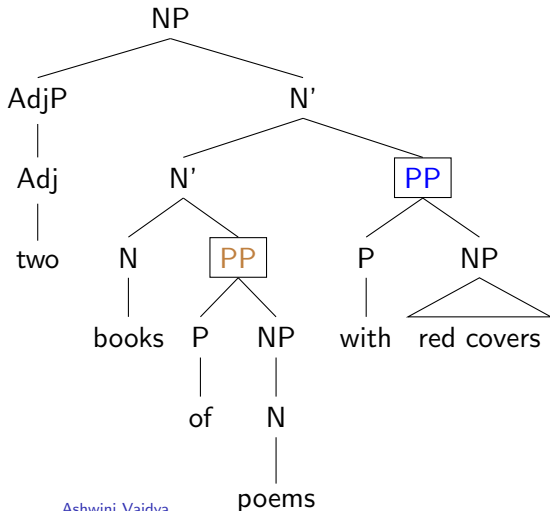
Complements are sisters to X

[[us aadmi ne] [[pulis ke saath] [kai din] [chor ko] talaasha]]



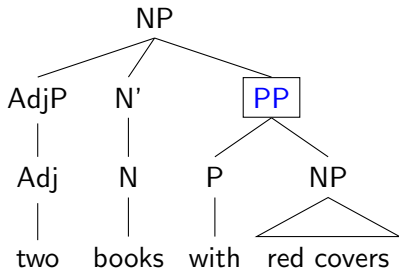
Examples

two books of poems with red covers
of poems is a **complement**, sister to N



two books with red covers

with red covers is an **adjunct**, is sister to N'



Why is this the case?

- 1 Complements cannot be dropped (as easily) as adjuncts (loose semantic notion)
- 2 Usually, *of* as a preposition corresponds to complements, *with, from, at, under, on* corresponds to adjuncts
- 3 Complements occur closer to the head than adjuncts **two books with red covers of poems* or **vah billi motii ne*
- 4 Adjunct rule has the property of recursion, complement rule does not ($X' \rightarrow (ZP) X'$) vs. ($X' \rightarrow X$ (WP))
- 5 Therefore, adjuncts are potentially infinite, but not complements

- A container [of flour]
- A container [with a glass lid]
- The collection [of figurines] [in the window]
- The statue [of Napoleon] [on the corner]
- Every window [in the building] [with a broken pane]

X-bar notation

- Optionality: only non-heads are optional
- Recursive property: using X' as intermediate projection
- Cross-categorial similarity: each NP, VP, AdjP, PP have parallel structures
- Structural/configurational definitions: for complements, adjuncts and specifiers

Abelard wrote a volume of poems in Latin for Héloïse

$TP \rightarrow NP VP$

TP is the start node. All X' notation are in the schema:

$XP \rightarrow (Y) X'$

$X' \rightarrow (ZP) X' \text{ or } X' (ZP)$

$X' \rightarrow X (WP)$

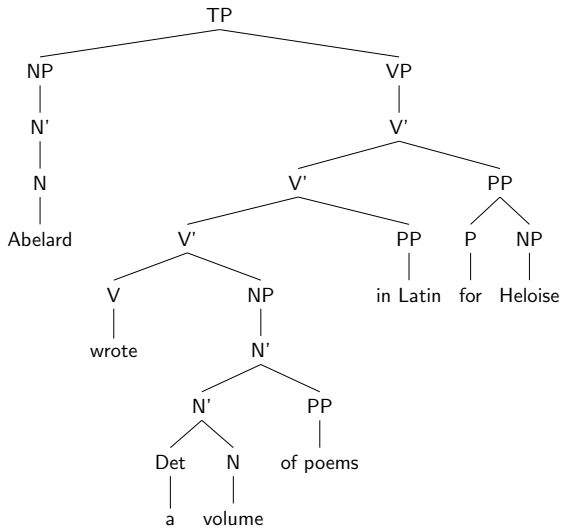
Therefore, rules for N, V will be as follows:

$NP \rightarrow (Y) N'$

$N' \rightarrow (ZP) N' \text{ or } N' (ZP)$

$N' \rightarrow N (WP)$

... etc



Possessive NPs

$N' \rightarrow (\text{AdjP}) N'$

$N' \rightarrow (\text{NP}) N'$

$\text{NP} \rightarrow (\text{Det}) N$

vaha moti billi ki talaash

*vaha moti vaha billi ki talaash

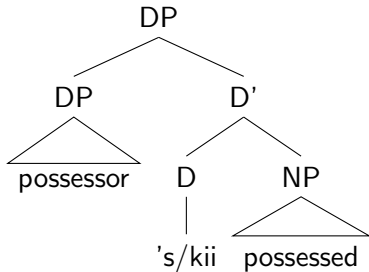
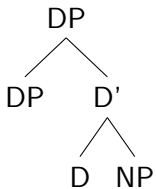
billi **ki** talaash

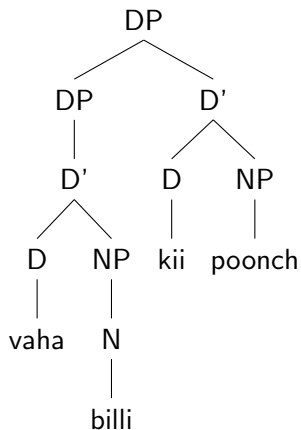
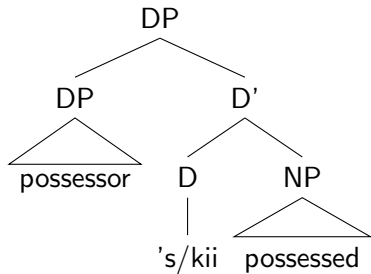
billi **ki** poonch

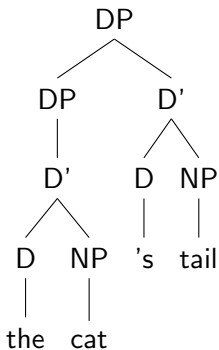
cat'**s** tail

cat'**s** pursuit

Determiner phrase



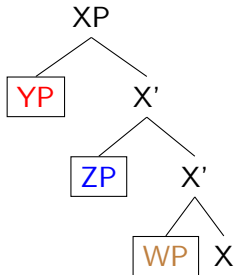




Also helps to account for sentences like the following:

The man standing over there's hat or vaha raam ko mili huii billi] ki talaash

Specifier position is now a YP



haapanumt 'in my boats'

- (a) plural : -an
- (b) First person possessive : -um
- (c) Locative : -t

Locative in Vogul or *in* in English represents an example of *grammatical case*

Mohan gave a book to Suman

Mohan cut the apple with a knife

Mohan gave a book to Suman
Mohan cut the apple with a knife

Mohan ne Suman ko kitaab dii
Mohan ne chaaku se seb kaata

Mohan gave a book to Suman
Mohan cut the apple with a knife

Mohan ne Suman ko kitaab dii
Mohan ne chaaku se seb kaata

kitaab Mohan ne Suman ko dii
Mohan ne seb chaaku se kaata

*book Mohan to Suman gave
*Mohan apple cut with a knife

- Greenberg (1966), universal no. 41: If in a language the verb follows both the nominal subject and nominal object as the dominant order, the language almost always has a case system.
- Why is this likely to be true?

Grammatical case

- In English, nouns don't have overt grammatical case markers (except pronouns such as *they* (nom), *them* (acc), *their* (poss))
- For subjects and objects in English, this relation is indicated by *position* i.e. before or after the verb
- All other noun phrases in English require prepositions

- *raam ne, sitaa se* represent relations of the noun with the verb
- These elements are distinguished from postpositions like *ke saath* or *ke upar*
- *ke/kii/kaa* or *se, ne* and *ko* indicate **case** [grammatical roles of nouns] e.g. possessive, instrumental, ergative (agentive) and accusative or dative

To make the relations explicit, try to use each of these in a sentence, then translate into English

Exercise

Armadillos from New York often destroy old pillowcases with their snouts. (NB: assume "their" is a determiner.)

People with boxes of old clothes lined up behind the door of the building with the leaky roof.

My favorite language is a language with simple morphology and complicated syntax.